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Judge alters Trump's gag order, letting him talk about witnesses, jury after hush money conviction

By MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A Manhattan judge on Tuesday modified Donald Trump's gag order, freeing the former president to comment publicly about witnesses and jurors in the hush money criminal trial that led to his felony conviction, but keeping others connected to the case off limits until he is sentenced July 11.

Judge Juan M. Merchan's decision — just days before Trump's debate Thursday with President Joe Biden — clears the presumptive Republican nominee to again go on the attack against his lawyer-turned-foe lawyer Michael Cohen, porn actor Stormy Daniels and other trial witnesses.



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Judge Juan Merchan poses for a photo in his chambers in New York, March 14, 2024.

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Judge alters Trump's gag order, letting him talk about witnesses, jury after hush money conviction

Continued from Front

Trump was convicted in New York on May 30 of falsifying records to cover up a potential sex scandal, making him the first ex-president convicted of a crime.

In a five-page ruling, Merchan wrote that the gag order was meant to "protect the integrity of the judicial proceedings" and that protections for witnesses and jurors no longer applied now that the trial has ended and the jury has been discharged.

Merchan said it had been his "strong preference" to continue barring Trump from commenting about jurors, whose names have not been made public, but that he couldn't justify doing so. The judge did leave in place a separate order prohibiting Trump and his lawyers from disclosing the identities of individual jurors or their addresses. Trump lawyer Todd Blanche said after the verdict the defense team has destroyed that information.

"There is ample evidence to justify continued concern for the jurors," Merchan wrote.

Merchan also left in place a ban on Trump commenting about court staffers, the prosecution team and their families until he is sentenced, writing that they must "continue to perform their lawful duties free from threats, intimidation, harassment, and harm." Those restrictions do not prohibit Trump from commenting about the judge himself or District Attorney Alvin Bragg, whose office prosecuted the case.

Trump's lawyers had urged Merchan to lift the gag order completely, arguing there was nothing to war-



Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump speaks at a campaign rally, June 22, 2024, at Temple University in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

rant restricting Trump's First Amendment rights after the trial's conclusion. Trump has said the gag order prevented him from defending himself while Cohen and Daniels continued to pillory him. Though largely a win for Trump, his campaign spokesperson Steven Cheung criticized Tuesday's ruling as "another unlawful decision by a highly conflicted judge, which is blatantly un-American as it gags President Trump, the leading candidate in the 2024 Presidential Election during the upcoming Presidential Debate on Thursday."

Cheung said Trump and his lawyers "will immediately challenge today's unconstitutional order," arguing that portions of the gag order still in effect prevent him from speaking about the judge, whom he alleges had a conflict of interest, or repeating his unfounded claims that Biden directed the prosecution.

The Manhattan DA's of-

fice had asked Merchan to keep the gag order's ban on comments about the jury and trial staff in place at least until Trump is sentenced, but said last week they would be OK allowing Trump to comment about witnesses now that the trial is over.

A message seeking comment was left with the Manhattan DA's office. Cohen, who testified for four days against his ex-boss, reacted to the ruling via text message. He wrote: "For the past 6 years, Donald and acolytes have been making constant negative statements about me. Donald's failed strategy of discrediting me so that he can avoid accountability didn't work then and won't work now."

Daniels' lawyer Clark Brewster said they "have nothing but respect" for Merchan and defer to his post-verdict review of the gag order "in the context of free speech and any continuing danger to the judicial

process."

"His decision to impose restrictions on Mr. Trump, as it related to reckless and unrelenting character attacks on court personnel, trial witnesses, and potentially jurors was extraordinary but clearly justified given the defendant's uncontrollable daily rants," Brewster said. Trump was convicted on 34 counts of falsifying business records arising from what prosecutors said was an attempt to cover up a hush money payment to Daniels just before the 2016 presidential election. She claims she had a sexual encounter with Trump a decade earlier, which he denies.

The crime is punishable by up to four years behind bars, but prosecutors haven't said if they would seek incarceration and it's unclear if Merchan would impose such a sentence. Other options include a fine or probation.

Following his conviction, Trump complained he was under a "nasty gag order,"

while also testing its limits. In remarks a day after his conviction, Trump referred to Cohen as "a sleazebag," though not by name.

In a subsequent Newsmax interview, Trump took issue with jury and its makeup, complaining about Manhattan, "It's a very, very liberal democrat area so I knew we were in deep trouble," and claiming: "I never saw a glimmer of a smile from the jury. No, this was a venue that was very unfair. A tiny fraction of the people are Republicans."

Trump's lawyers, who said they were under the impression the gag order would end with a verdict, wrote to Merchan on June 4 asking him to lift the order. Prosecutors wanted Merchan to keep the gag order's ban on comments about jurors and trial staff "at least through the sentencing hearing and the resolution of any post-trial motions." They argued the judge had "an obligation to protect the integrity of these proceedings and the fair administration of justice."

Merchan issued Trump's gag order on March 26, a few weeks before the start of the trial, after prosecutors raised concerns about the presumptive Republican presidential nominee's propensity to assail people involved in his cases.

Merchan later expanded it to prohibit comments about his own family after Trump made social media posts attacking the judge's daughter, a Democratic political consultant.

During the trial, Merchan held Trump in contempt of court, fined him \$10,000 for violating the gag order and threatened to put him in jail if he did it again. □

U.S. surgeon general declares gun violence a public health emergency

By AMANDA SEITZ

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. surgeon general on Tuesday declared gun violence a public health crisis, driven by the fast-growing number of injuries and deaths involving firearms in the country.

The advisory issued by Dr. Vivek Murthy, the nation's top doctor, came as the U.S. grappled with another summer weekend marked by mass shootings that left dozens of people dead or wounded.

"People want to be able to walk through their neighborhoods and be safe," Murthy told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "America should be a place where all of us can go to school, go to work, go to the supermarket, go to our house of worship, without having to worry that that's going to put our life at risk."

To drive down gun deaths, Murthy calls on the U.S. to ban automatic rifles, introduce universal background checks for purchasing guns, regulate the industry, pass laws that would restrict their use in public spaces and penalize people who fail to safely store their weapons. None of those suggestions can be implemented nationwide without legislation passed by Congress, which typically recoils at gun control measures. Some state legislatures, however, have enacted or may consider some of the surgeon general's proposals.

Surgeon General Murthy said there is "broad agreement" that gun violence is a problem, citing a poll last year that found most Americans worry at least sometimes that a loved one might be injured by a firearm. More than 48,000 Americans died from gun injuries in 2022.

Doctors quickly praised Murthy's advisory. The American Academy of Family Physicians, for example, has considered gun violence a public health epidemic for over a decade.

"Family physicians have long understood, and have seen first hand, the devastating impact firearm violence has on our patients



Surgeon General Vivek Murthy speaks during an Archewell Foundation panel discussion in New York City, Oct. 10, 2023.

Associated Press

and the communities we serve," the group's president, Steven Furr, said in a statement.

Murthy's advisory, however, promises to be controversial with the gun lobby and will certainly incense Republican lawmakers, most of whom opposed his confirmation twice to the job over his statements on gun violence. The National Rifle Association promptly rebuked Murthy's advisory. "This is an extension of the Biden Administration's war on law-abiding gun owners," Randy Kozuch, the organization's president, said in a statement on X.

It was the NRA, and Republicans who enjoy the powerful gun lobby's support, that almost derailed Murthy's confirmation as surgeon general a decade ago. Murthy became quieter on the issue of gun violence after his past statements almost cost him the job. He ended up promising the Senate that he did "not intend to use my office as surgeon general as a bully pulpit on gun control." Then-President Donald Trump dismissed Murthy in 2017, but President Joe Biden nominated him again to the position in 2021.

Murthy has published warnings about troubling health trends in American life, including loneliness and social media use. In an opinion piece in The New York Times this month, he said social media has contributed to a mental health crisis among

the country's young people and asked Congress to require warning labels on social media platforms similar

to those on cigarette boxes. But he also has faced mounting pressure from some doctors and Demo-

cratic advocacy groups to speak out more.

"It is now time for us to take this issue out of the realm of politics and put it in the realm of public health, the way we did with smoking more than a half century ago," Murthy told the AP.

It was a 1964 report from the surgeon general that raised awareness about the dangers of smoking is largely credited with reducing tobacco use and precipitating regulations on the industry.

Murthy now hopes his advisory on guns will shift the conversation, too, on this issue. He has been encouraged by some developments in Congress, including the passage of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act in 2022 that enhanced background checks for firearms. □



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Midwestern carbon dioxide pipeline project gets approval in Iowa, but still has a long way to go

By JACK DURA

Associated Press

Iowa public utility regulators on Tuesday approved a controversial carbon dioxide pipeline for transporting emissions of the climate-warming greenhouse gas for storage underground in a win for Summit Carbon Solutions' project after setbacks in other states and opposition from landowners around the Midwest.

The company still has many hoops to jump through before it can begin building in Iowa, including gaining other states' approval.

The \$5.5 billion, 2,500-mile (4,023.36 kilometers) pipeline network would carry planet-warming CO₂ emissions, liquefied under pressure, from more than 50 ethanol plants in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota to be stored deep underground in central North Dakota.

Farmers and the ethanol industry see the pipeline as a way to qualify for federal tax breaks they see as key for growing a market for a cleaner-burning aviation fuel. Corn is among the top two crops in the Midwest, and Iowa is the leader in corn and ethanol production.

"Whether you think it's smart or silly, the world's largest airlines want to decarbon-



A sign reading "Property rights matter, no CO₂" stands near Strasburg, N.D., Jan. 11, 2024.

Associated Press

ize their fuel. Carbon capture and sequestration gets Iowa ethanol into that market, potentially providing a generational boost to Iowa's economy," Iowa Renewable Fuels Association Executive Director Monte Shaw said in a statement.

Summit CEO Lee Blank welcomed the decision in a statement.

The project's opponents, including many landowners, fear their land will be taken for the pipeline and that a

potential pipeline rupture could release dangerous CO₂ gas. A coalition opposing Summit's project vowed to fight the Iowa board's decision.

Landowner attorney Brian Jorde said the decision was expected, with a lengthy process for Summit still ahead, such as applying in South Dakota.

"It's just one small thing in a maze, in a track-and-field event full of hurdles that they have to get over," Jorde

said.

The Iowa Utilities Board approved Summit's January 2022 application for a permit to build and operate the pipeline. But before the board issues the permit, the company must file proof of an insurance policy of at least \$100 million to pay for any damages resulting from the pipeline project. Summit must provide proof of the insurance annually.

The company also can't start construction until it has ap-

provals from North Dakota and South Dakota, including for routes in both states and underground storage in North Dakota. Summit also needs approvals from Minnesota and in Nebraska before it can begin to build lines out to ethanol plants in those states.

The Iowa regulators' decision comes after hearings last year and setbacks in other states. North Dakota regulators denied a siting permit in August, but later agreed to reconsider. Hearings on the underground storage proposal were held earlier this month.

South Dakota regulators denied Summit's application in September; Summit said it plans to file again in early July. In Nebraska, where Summit must work with individual counties, at least one county has denied a permit.

The Iowa panel also granted the company the right of eminent domain over numerous parcels of land, but only after the permit is issued. The extent of Summit's eminent domain powers wasn't immediately clear from the 500-page order. The board denied use of some parcels of land; others require modifications to the route. Eminent domain is the taking of private land for public use with compensation for landowners. □

Lawmakers in a New York county pass transgender athlete ban after earlier ban is thrown out in court



Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, at podium, speaks during a news conference, March 6, 2024, in Mineola, N.Y.

Associated Press

MINEOLA, N.Y. (AP) — A county legislature outside

New York City has voted to bar transgender female

athletes from playing on girls' and women's teams at county-owned facilities after a bid to restrict trans athletes by executive order was thrown out in court.

The Republican-controlled Nassau County Legislature voted 12-5 on Monday to bar trans athletes from playing at county-owned facilities unless they compete on teams matching the gender they were assigned at birth or on coed teams.

The move followed Republican County Executive Bruce Blakeman's Feb. 22 executive order attempting to enact a similar ban.

A judge ruled in May that Blakeman had issued his order "despite there being no corresponding legislative enactment" providing him with such authority. Blakeman is now expected to sign the bill into law.

The New York Times reports that transgender advocates packed Monday's meeting holding signs that read "trans women are women." Republican Legislator John R. Ferretti Jr. said the bill was not a transgender ban since trans women would still be able to compete, just in men's or coed leagues.

Audience members chant-

ed "lies!"

Blakeman had said his earlier ban was meant to protect girls and women from getting injured while competing against transgender women. It would have affected more than 100 sports facilities in the county on Long Island next to New York City.

Blakeman's executive order was challenged by state Attorney General Letitia James, who issued a cease and desist letter, and by a women's roller derby league, the Long Island Roller Rebels, which filed a lawsuit over the ban. □

Israel's high court orders the army to draft ultra-Orthodox men, rattling Netanyahu's government

By TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled unanimously that the military must begin drafting ultra-Orthodox men for compulsory service, a landmark decision that could lead to the collapse of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's governing coalition as Israel continues to wage war in Gaza.

The historic ruling effectively puts an end to a decades-old system that granted ultra-Orthodox men broad exemptions from military service while maintaining mandatory enlistment for the country's secular Jewish majority. The arrangement, deemed discriminatory by critics, has created a deep chasm in Israel's Jewish majority over who should shoulder the burden of protecting the country.

The court struck down a law that codified exemptions in 2017, but repeated court extensions and government delaying tactics over a replacement dragged out a resolution for years. The court ruled that in the absence of a law, Israel's compulsory military service applies to the ultra-Orthodox like any other citizen.

Under longstanding arrangements, ultra-Orthodox men have been exempt from the draft, which is compulsory for most Jewish men and women, who serve three and two years respectively as well as reserve duty until around age 40.

These exemptions have long been a source of anger among the secular public, a divide that has widened during the eight-month-old war, as the military has called up tens of thousands of soldiers and says it needs all the manpower it can get. Over 600 soldiers have been killed since Hamas' Oct. 7 attack. Politically powerful ultra-Orthodox parties, key partners in Netanyahu's governing coalition, oppose any change to the current system. If the exemptions are ended, they could bolt the coalition, causing the



Israeli police officers remove an ultra-Orthodox Jewish man from the street during a protest against army recruitment in Jerusalem on June 2, 2024.

Associated Press

government to collapse and likely leading to new elections at a time when its popularity has dropped.

In the current environment, Netanyahu could have a hard time delaying the matter any further or passing laws to restore the exemptions. During arguments, government lawyers told the court that forcing ultra-Orthodox men to enlist would "tear Israeli society apart."

The ultra-Orthodox see their full-time religious study as their part in protecting the state.

Many fear that greater contact with secular society through the military will distance adherents from strict observance of the faith.

A statement from Netanyahu's Likud party criticized the ruling, saying a bill in parliament backed by the Israeli leader would address the draft issue. Critics say it falls short of Israel's wartime needs.

"The real solution to the draft problem is not a Supreme Court ruling," the statement said.

In its ruling, the court found that the state was carrying out "invalid selective enforcement, which represents a serious violation of the rule of law, and the principle according to which all individuals are equal before the law."

It did not say how many ultra-Orthodox should be drafted, but the military has said it is capable of enlisting 3,000 this year.

The security establishment must "act immediately to implement the ruling" and enlist at least that many ultra-Orthodox soldiers in the coming year, the Attorney General's Office demanded in a letter to legal advisors for the defense establishment, the Finance Ministry and the Ministry of Education.

Some 66,000 ultra-Orthodox men are now eligible for enlistment, according to Shuki Friedman, an expert on religion and state affairs and the vice-president of the Jewish People Policy Institute, a Jerusalem think tank. The ruling of Israel's highest court must be followed, and the military is expected to begin doing so once it forms a plan for how to draft thousands of members of a population that's deeply opposed to service, and which follows a cloistered and modest lifestyle the military may not be immediately prepared to accommodate. The army had no immediate comment.

The court also ruled that state subsidies for seminaries where exempted ultra-Orthodox men study should remain suspended. The court temporarily froze the

seminary budgets earlier this year.

In a post on the social platform X, Cabinet minister Yitzhak Goldknopf, who heads one of the ultra-Orthodox parties in the coalition, called the ruling "very unfortunate and disappointing." He did not say whether his party would bolt the government.

Israel's ultra-Orthodox make up roughly 13% of the 9.9 million population. The community has a high birthrate, making it the fastest-growing segment of the population, at about 4% annually. Each year, roughly 13,000 ultra-Orthodox males reach the conscription age of 18 but less than 10% enlist, according to the Israeli parliament's State Control Committee.

Ultra-Orthodox men attend special seminaries that focus on religious studies, with little attention on secular topics such as math, English or science. Critics have said they are ill-prepared to serve in the military or enter the secular work force.

Religious women generally receive exemptions that are not as controversial, in part because women are not expected to serve in combat units.

The court ruling does not address the status of Israel's Palestinian citizens, who are not expected to serve

and most of whom do not. As descendants of Palestinians who remained in Israel after the 1948 war that led to its creation, their ties to the military are fraught and some in Israel see them as a fifth column because of their solidarity with Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.

Tuesday's ruling now sets the stage for growing friction within the coalition over the draft issue. Ultra-Orthodox lawmakers are likely to face intense pressure from religious leaders and their constituents and may have to decide whether remaining in the government is worthwhile for them. Previous court rulings on the issue and threats of enlistment have sparked protests and violence between the ultra-Orthodox and police.

Friedman said the ultra-Orthodox "understand that they don't have a better political alternative, but at the same time their public is saying 'why did we vote for you?'"

The exemptions have faced years of legal challenges and a string of court decisions has found the system unjust. But Israeli leaders, under pressure from ultra-Orthodox parties, have repeatedly stalled.

The Movement for Quality Government in Israel, which has helped lead the challenge against the exemptions, called on the government to immediately draft all eligible seminary students.

"This is their legal and moral duty, especially in light of the complex security situation and the urgent need for personnel" in the army, said Tomer Naor, head of the group's legal department.

Netanyahu's coalition is buoyed by two ultra-Orthodox parties who oppose increasing enlistment for their constituents. The long-serving Israeli leader has tried to adhere to the court's rulings while also scrambling to preserve his coalition. But with a slim majority of 64 seats in the 120-member parliament, he's often beholden to the smaller parties. □

U.N. World Food Program decries looting and burning of its warehouse in western Myanmar combat zone

BANGKOK (AP) — The United Nations' food agency on Tuesday strongly condemned the looting of food supplies and burning of one of its warehouses over the weekend in a war-torn area in Myanmar's western state of Rakhine.

A statement released by the World Food Program said the destroyed building in Rakhine's Maungdaw township held 1,175 metric tons (1,295 U.S. tons) of food and supplies — enough to sustain 64,000 people for a month in case of an emergency.

The incident, which happened on Sunday, makes even more desperate a humanitarian crisis caused by bitter fighting between Myanmar's military government and guerrillas of the Arakan Army belonging to the Rakhine ethnic minority, which seeks autonomy from the central government.

The wider context of the fighting is Myanmar's nationwide civil war, in which pro-democracy guerrillas and ethnic minority armed forces battle the country's military rulers, who took power in 2021 after the army ousted the elected



Demonstrators hold papers printed with Aung San Suu Kyi's famous quote "The only real prison is fear, and the only real freedom is freedom from fear" as they rally to mark her 79th birthday in Launglon township in Tanintharyi region, Myanmar, Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

Associated Press

government of Aung San Suu Kyi.

The fiercest fighting is currently taking place in Rakhine. The U.N. says that more than 3 million people have been displaced nationwide by fighting since the 2021 army takeover, causing a massive and largely

unmet need for humanitarian assistance.

The WFP also called "on all parties to the conflict to uphold their obligations under International Humanitarian Law to ensure that humanitarian facilities and assets are respected and protected, and safe and

secure access is provided for the delivery of vital assistance to those in urgent need."

The statement did not identify the perpetrators of the looting. The Arakan Army blamed the attack on army soldiers and local Muslims said to be fighting

alongside them. However, Nay San Lwin, a co-founder of the Free Rohingya Coalition, an advocacy group based outside of Myanmar, said in a message to The Associated Press that members of both the Arakan Army and Myanmar's military had been separately involved in the looting and burning of the WFP warehouse, which held more than 20,000 bags of rice.

Maungdaw, in northern Rakhine and close to the country's border with Bangladesh, appears to be on the verge of being seized by the Arakan Army.

Several days ago, the guerrilla group urged the residents of Maungdaw, who are mostly from the Muslim Rohingya ethnic minority, to evacuate from their houses urgently for their safety.

In May, the Arakan Army took over another Rakhine city, which like Maungdaw has a majority Rohingya population. At the time, the military government and the Arakan Army each blamed the other for burning down most of the city and forcing its residents to leave. □

Puerto Rico sues former officials accused of corruption to recover more than \$30M in public funds

By CORAL MURPHY MARCOS
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Puerto Rico's Justice Department announced Tuesday that it is suing at least 30 ex-government officials accused of corruption to recover more than \$30 million in public funds.

Among those sued are three former legislators, including María Milagros Charbonier, who was sentenced in May to eight years in federal prison after being found guilty of theft, bribery and a kickback scheme. "We are going to recover the Puerto Rican people's money and claim an amount that totals three times the dam-

age caused by those who have illegally appropriated public funds," said Domingo Emanuelli, the U.S. territory's justice secretary.

Also sued are eight former mayors including Félix Delgado of Cataño and Ángel Pérez of Guaynabo. Delgado was sentenced to

one year in federal prison in March after pleading guilty to accepting bribes in exchange for awarding millions of dollars' worth of municipal contracts. Pérez was sentenced to more than five years in federal prison in February after being found guilty of bribery and extortion.

Their attorneys could not be immediately reached for comment.

Puerto Rico's Justice Department had long been accused of not cracking down sufficiently on widespread government corruption on the island, with federal authorities taking the reins in recent years.

"For the first time on the island, the Puerto Rican

Justice Department sued more than 30 convicts for corruption with the purpose of recovering public funds and demanding reparation for the damages they caused to the Puerto Rican people," Emanuelli said.

The department also sued two companies: J. R. Asphalt, Inc., and Waste Collection Corp. Federal authorities have previously accused them of being linked to government corruption cases.

The Department of Justice stated that, according to the civil procedural rules of the U.S. territory, it could implement provisional measures to recover assets and restrict the defendants' ability to sell property. □



A Puerto Rican national flag flies in front of the Capitol building in San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 29, 2015.

Associated Press

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How to make “funchi hasa”

(Oranjestad)—A night in can be just as fun as a night out on the town, especially if you got the right snacks to munch on. One of the most famous Aruban snacks or appetizers is “funchi hasa” (fried polenta sticks). A super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here’s how to make it!

Before we start, get to know the basics

So what is funchi hasa? Funchi, or Aruban polenta, is a popular side dish for local dishes, like soups, stews and fried fish. Made from a corn flour, water and butter mixture, this appetizer is traditionally eaten alongside a warm meal. However, locals also like to fry

sticks of funchi for a quick and filling snack.

Ingredients (measured by heart)

1. Polenta flour*
2. Water
3. Butter
4. Salt to taste

Directions

Bring water to a boil in a medium-sized sauce pan. Add in some salt and butter to taste in the boiling water and let this dissolve and melt. Then, gradually add the flour while stirring with a wooden spoon. The mixture will start to begin to harden pretty fast, so be careful not to add too much. At this phase of cooking, you want a goopy

thick mixture, but thin enough so you can continue to stir to get all the lumps out.

After reaching a semi-firm, yet flexible texture, grab a baking pan or any large, deep plate, and pour the mixture in. Be sure that this plate is wet or greased so that the mixture does not stick to the bottom. Let this cool completely while it firms up for the last time. Once it's cooled you can enjoy it as is, topped with some butter or shredded cheese. Or, you can take it to another level of deliciousness.

When your funchi is firm enough, cut it into strips (size is up to you). Heat up some oil in a pan and fry



those babies up! After frying, you can top it with some cheese or enjoy it with your favorite dipping sauce.

Note: We recommend the FUNCHI FRESKU polenta flour brand that is sold in all supermarkets on the island. You can also use yellow corn flour from the brand PAN.□

Photo credit of fried funchi sticks: Jacqueline Felida on Pinterest.

Create museum memories

ORANJESTAD — Museums are an integral part of conserving and honoring cultures, and Aruba is no exception. Our Island has a wide selection of various museums for our locals and visitors to see. Take this opportunity to learn about our island and experience a different day beyond the beach. Let us introduce to you these museums.

Museum of Industry Aruba

The Museum of Industry is located in San Nicolas—better known as the art capital of Aruba. This museum exhibits the industrial history of gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and tourism through elaborated displays and multi-media installations.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history,

which began in the 19th century. The Water Tower was built in 1939 and consists of three sections: the substructure, the high-rising vertical shaft, and the tank at the top. The Water Tower was purchased by the Monuments Fund in 2003 so it can be restored and preserved as one of Aruba's monuments. The Museum of Industry is part of Aruba Museum Foundation (Fundacion Museo Arubano), which is a foundation set to maintain, preserve, and protect the Aruban cultural sector, history, and nature. The museum of Industry is open daily from 9 am till 6 pm.

For more information, check out their Facebook page Museum of Industry Aruba.

Archaeological Museum of Aruba

The Archaeological Museum of Aruba is located at Schelpstraat 42 in downtown Oranjestad. The renovated historic Ecury complex in the area has been

transformed from a family home to a modern museum that preserves Aruba's Amerindian cultural heritage. This 21st century museum is especially designed to preserve valuable artifacts dating back to the Pre-Ceramic period of 2500 BC.

In the late 1980's, AMA identified its need for an adequate housing for its collection and activities. After studying various options, a project proposal was drawn up, including the acquisition and restoration of historical buildings in downtown Oranjestad.

These historical buildings were formerly the property of the Ecury family. The "Ecury Complex", is a cluster of single and two-story historic buildings, mainly Dutch colonial architecture from the late 19th and 20th century on a plot of approximately 1.700 m2.

In 1997, the Aruban Government bought the complex for the National Archaeo-



logical Museum project. In 2004, a financial agreement was signed with the European Development Fund and in 2006, restoration and construction work began on the monumental buildings and the soon-to-be exhibition space. In December 2007, the key to the complex was delivered and the museum's employees moved to the new location. The final design for the exhibit was completed in November 2007 and the permanent exhibit, financed by the Aruban Government and the Union of Cultural Organizations (UNOCA), opened in July 2009.

At the new location, the National Archaeological Museum Aruba disposes of



approximately 500 m2 for its permanent exhibit. This exhibit conveys information on the origin and culture of the first inhabitants of the island through archaeological objects and modern exhibition techniques. The new permanent exhibit gives the visitor an insight into the cultures that inhabited the island in Pre-Historical and Early Historical times. The museum also hosts attractive public programs, including lectures, educational projects, temporary exhibits and workshops.

The museum is open daily from 9:30 am till 4:30 pm. For more information check out the Facebook page Museo Arqueologico Nacional Aruba.□

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SETAR, the island's premier Telecom provider, is a pioneer in shaping connectivity in Aruba. SETAR has become indispensable to Aruba's vibrant tech landscape by delivering lightning-fast networks to local communities and visitors. The island is transforming with SETAR's ambitious project to convert the entire island to fiber, revolutionizing how Aruba stays connected, and marking a significant leap in innovation and firmly establishing Aruba as one of the most technologically advanced islands in the Caribbean.

With stores around the island and services designed to keep all visitors connected, whether they're coming for vacation or work, SETAR ensures you stay in touch effortlessly. Revel in the high speed Internet on Aruba's exceptional Fixed and Mobile Networks, ensuring you're connected wherever your adventure takes you.

Are you eager to start your experience? Start by purchasing your SETAR Tourist SIM at the TeleKiosk in the Arrival Hall of Aruba's Airport.

Tourist SIM

Paradise awaits in Aruba, and SETAR, is here to enhance your tropical adventure with our exclusive

Tourist Bundles! Stay connected, share the magic, and make the most of your Aruban escape with seamless communication.

Tourist Bundles to Suit Your Journey:

Tourist Bundles - 7 Days (35GB)

- UNLIMITED Data [5GB DAILY]
- 200 Minutes on-net to Fixed and Mobile
- 30 Minutes to other providers and International
- 50 SMS Local and International
- Valid for 7 Days
- For only \$30

Tourist Bundles - 14 Days (70GB)

- UNLIMITED Data [5GB DAILY]
- 300 Minutes on-net to Fixed and Mobile
- 60 Minutes to other providers and International
- 50 SMS Local and International
- Valid for 14 Days
- For only \$50

When purchasing the bundle for the first time at one of our stores, the Tourist SIM card is FREE and is tailored for visitors staying a few weeks in Aruba.

For visitors staying longer on the island, SETAR offers a flexible Prepaid option that allows you to buy credit conveniently at any TeleShop, gas station, minimarket, or supermarket. This prepaid credit

provides you the freedom to call anytime or choose from the different Prepaid bundles SETAR offers: Data Bundles: Stay connected with high-speed Internet and choose from various data options to suit your needs.

One Bundle: Enjoy the convenience of bundled SMS, Voice, and Data in one package.

SETAR ensures you have the best communication experience during your time in Aruba.

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Are you planning a trip to Aruba that blends business with leisure, or perhaps seeking a remote work setup? Whether you're coming to Aruba for business or to embrace a 'workcation,' SETAR has tailored solutions to ensure seamless and uninterrupted connectivity during your stay.

Stay productive while enjoying the beauty of Aruba. SETAR designed flexible plans and reliable services to cater to your needs, providing you with the connectivity required for work and play. Go to the TeleKiosk in the Arrival Hall of Aruba's Airport and ask for the Prepaid Wireless Home Internet for seamless connectivity. Enjoy the fastest Internet speeds with our Wireless Home Internet Prepaid

plans without worrying about additional charges and you can use it anywhere on the island. It is easy to use and access. Choose the bundle that suits your budget and needs.

Explore the options that best suit your Workcation in Aruba:

1 Day Plan:

- 10GB Data
- Valid for 1 Day or upon depletion of your bundle
- \$5.55

1 Week Plan:

- 50GB Data
- Valid for 7 Days or upon depletion of your bundle
- \$20

30 Days Plan:

- 75GB Data
- Valid for 30 Days or upon depletion of your bundle
- \$55.50

Imagine strolling along the Aruban beaches after a productive workday or unwinding with a picturesque sunset as your backdrop to a successful day's work. Experience the ideal blend of work and relaxation in Aruba, supported by SETAR's seamless connectivity. Let us make your stay in Aruba an experience like no other. □

The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island



Recently, Ms. Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure to honor a Loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at their home away from home.

The honorees:

Robert and Angela Kampwart from New York

The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years together with the members of Costa Linda beach resort.

Top reason for returning provided by the honorees were: Warm beautiful weather, the people of the island and beautiful beaches. □

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Behind The Mask | Juan Valdez Café | Baskin-Robbins
The Brownstone Ribs and Seafood | The Market | M8 Boutique
Fusion - Piano Wine & Cigar Bar | Shalom Body & Soul Spa
Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More | Twist of Flavors
The Lazy Lizard | Dunkin Donuts | Shalom Hair & Nails Bar
Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics



Best spots to view the sunset



(Oranjestad)—Today we celebrate Valentine's Day, and what can be more romantic than surprising your partner with a date watching the sunset. Aruba's sunset leave many speechless, and luckily, the best spots to view the sunset are entirely accessible and easy to find. Here are some of the best places to view the sunset on the island.

California Light House

Of course, being one of the highest point easily accessible to locals and tourists,

the California Light House hill not only offers a tremendous view of the sunset, but also a breath taking scenery of most of the island. In the distance you can spot all the hotels, the western shoreline and the wild waves that crash on the northern side of the island.

Manchebo & Eagle Beach

Speaking of the western shoreline, the best spots for viewing the sunset on the beach has to be either Manchebo Beach or at Eagle Beach, which stretch

along the entire western coast of the island starting from behind Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort up to the Amsterdam Manor roundabout. The sunset on these beaches is truly breathtaking; the sky and ocean look so big and spacious, and paired with the orange/pink hue of the sunset, the white sandy beaches and the soft sounds of waves crashing—it can only be described as an experience!*

Arashi Beach



Another beach that has to be considered as another great spot to view the sunset. Arashi Beach is the last beach you will find along the western coast line, just before you drive up the hill to the California Light House. A favorite for surfers and body boarders, the Arashi sky stretches out for miles, lending a spectacular canvas for the sun to create a masterpiece of orange, pink and purple hue.

Hooiberg Hill

These last two options are for more active couples. If you and your partner like to hike, the Hooiberg Hill may be a great place for you to

get your daily workout in and enjoy a beautiful view of the sunset and the island as a little reward. Climb on top the 587-step stairs and reach the top to enjoy this incredible scenery.

Casibari Rock Formation

If you're a rock climber, you might enjoy watching the sunset on top of the Casibari Rock Formation. It's no Yosemite, but it does offer a fun little exercise to get to the top. But if you prefer not to get your hands a little dirty, you can always use the stairs in the back.□

Editor's note: This spot may be my personal favorite, if you couldn't already tell...

Aruba To You Expands Its Network with 20 Restaurants and Partners with Property Management Companies for Exclusive Promotions

(Oranjestad)—Aruba To You, Aruba's innovative food delivery service, continues to expand its offerings with nearly 20 restaurants now part of its platform. In a strategic move to enhance dining experiences for tourists and locals alike, Aruba To You is partnering with leading property management companies to offer special promotions to their clients.

Since its inception on March 6, 2024, Aruba To You has rapidly grown, reflecting its commitment

to connecting customers with a wide variety of dining options. The service's partnership with property management companies aims to bring unique dining deals directly to the accommodations of visitors, enriching their stay on the island. "We are excited about these collaborations, which are geared towards creating an even more memorable experience for guests by providing them with convenient access to some of the best food Aruba has to offer right at their doorstep," said Gianluca Sar-

do, Co-founder of Aruba To You. Aruba To You invites all property management companies on the island to join this initiative, aiming to create a comprehensive network that benefits both visitors and local businesses. Through these partnerships, Aruba To You reinforces its mission to support the local community and drive a positive impact on Aruba's tourism and hospitality industry.

For more information about Aruba To You, to view the list of partner

restaurants, or to learn more about the special promotions available through our property management partners, please visit app. arubatoyou.com, contact us via email at info@arubatoyou.com, or connect with us on WhatsApp at +297 568 3974.

Contact:

Gianluca Sardo

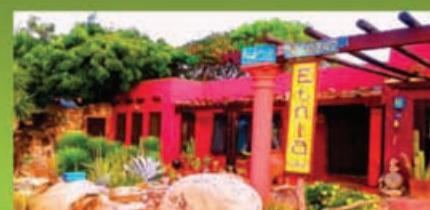
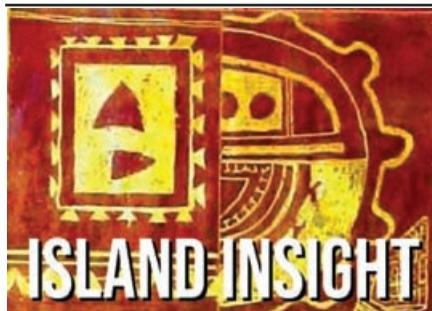
Co-founder

Aruba To You

Email: info@arubatoyou.com

Phone: +297 568 3974

Website: app.arubatoyou.com□



Article by Etnia Nativa

WhatsApp us 592 2702 and book your Aruban experience!

Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



Salt: an essential and cheap mineral

Etnia Nativa is a unique cultural and heritage experience location that enriches this newspaper with its knowledge of authentic island historical traditions, its flora, fauna, and artistic expressions. Through its column, Island Insight, you will definitely discover Aruba from a different perspective. Our island has a very valuable intangible cultural living heritage that includes traditional practices, expressions, and crafty techniques transmitted from generation to generation; spreading these traditions is one of Etnia Nativa's main objectives. In this episode, we will share some history regarding this precious mineral known as salt and its processing in Aruba.

Salt has an essential biological significance necessary for our survival and has a very important role in human health since it is vital for cellular, brain, nervous system, and digestive functions. Due to its importance for human and animal survival, it has been valued throughout history, with evidence of its mining and seawater evaporation production dating back way into the Neolithic era (approximately 6,000 BC).

Solnitsata, a city in Bulgaria, was one of these prehistoric centers in Europe's that had its fundaments around the winning of salt and accumulated its wealth by supplying the mineral to the entire Balkans. Salt was highly valued by the Greeks, Chinese, and other great civilizations of antiquity. In the Roman era through the middle Ages, salt was a valuable commodity referred to as white gold. The Roman road system also served in the transportation and commerce of salt. It is said that the word "salary" comes from the Latin word for salt, since it was so valuable that Roman Legionnaires were sometimes paid in part with a bag of salt. However, a "salarium" may have also been an allowance paid to Roman soldiers for the purchase of salt; however, both of these claims are not well established and are considered assumptions.

As salt is also one of the oldest methods of food preservation, it was of great value and importance to



seafarers who undertook long voyages to the high seas, using it to preserve fish, raw meat, bacon, and also pickled vegetables. When Dutch navigators approached our region, the West Indies, and the South American continent, upon seeing the large natural purple salt flat of the Araya Peninsula in Venezuela, they immediately turned it into an important salt extraction site. During colonial times, ships annually set sail back to Europe with hundreds of tons of salt. But in 1665, Spanish forces stopped this "flourishing" illicit industry, putting an end to Dutch incursions.

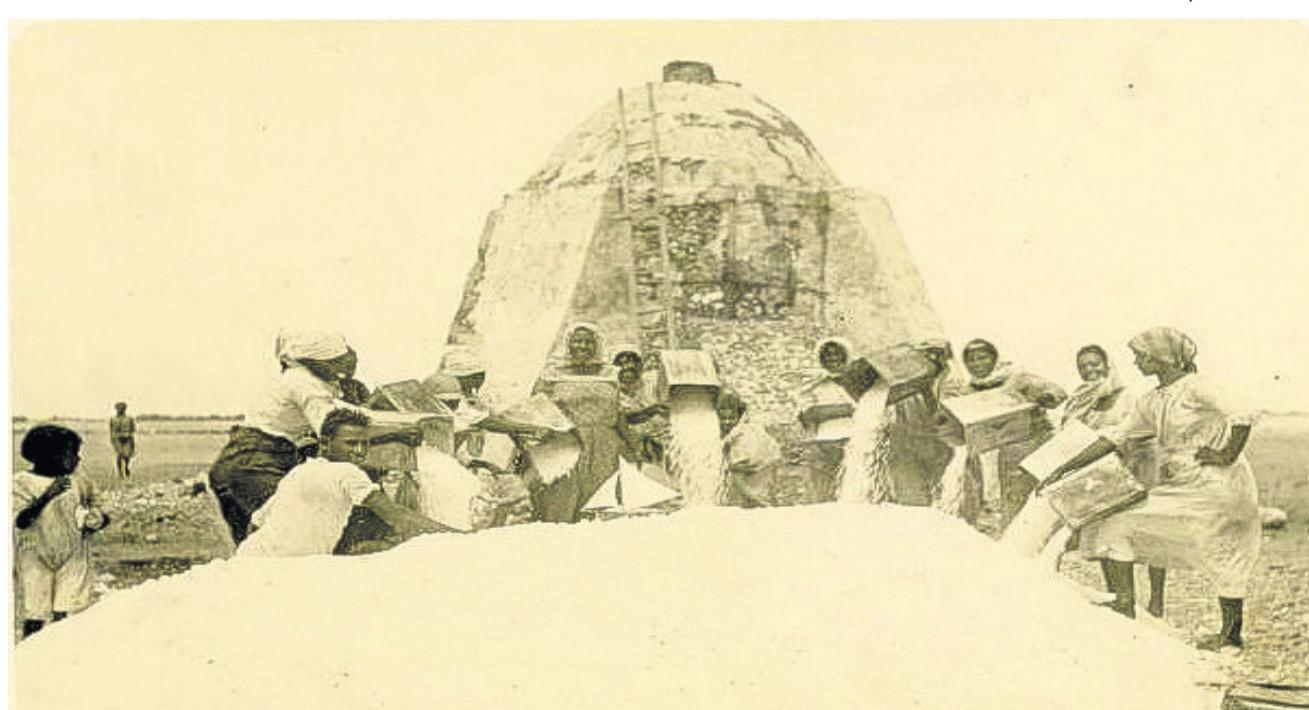
Since the Spanish prevented them from this felonious extraction of their salt, the next goal for the Dutch WIC was the ABC islands: Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao. The salt pyramids of Bonaire today stand for the ancient salt trade of the Caribbean, which has persisted

Episode CCLX - 260

over time and in which our sister island continues to play an important role. In Aruba, the so-called western wetlands measure 392 hectares and include five salt lagoons, known locally as salinas. Some of them are located between high-rise hotels and residential areas, constituting an important stopover for hundreds of birds that migrate between the continents of North and South America. During the times of salt exploitation, it was common to see workers working in the collection of the mineral with their bare hands and feet and buried up to their knees in the mud, doing the work of collecting the salt. When the port was expanded in 1949, some of the salt flats of Oranjestad disappeared under the sand.

If you are interested in learning the true identity of Aruba, book your visit to Etnia Nativa, home of our chief cultural columnist, who has been a trend setter since 1994, having the honor to participate in the realization of the island's National Park Project and Archaeological Museum. Actually, he continues to share the culture of Aruba, with the main goal of providing valuable knowledge of the island to his visitors. Etnia Nativa sets itself apart from the rest as a hidden gem by offering a personal native touch and providing the opportunity to enjoy a diverse array of artworks, objects, artifacts, dead dissected animals, plants, colonial furniture, unique old photos, etc. Etnia Nativa is your opportunity to dive to the navel of Aruba!

Book your visit: WhatsApp +297 592 2702 etnianativa03@gmail.com



National Park Arikok: Aruba's biggest nature conservation



The National Park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There are numerous animals to discover, for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the island's past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches—a very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Nature Conservation

The protected area of National Park Arikok was of-

ficially established in 2000. Arikok National Park is a 34 square kilometers (7907 acres) of natural area, located at the north-eastern part of Aruba which contains examples of most of the island's flora and fauna against a backdrop of great geological complexity. We are proud to state that approximately 18% of the total land area of Aruba is assigned as a National Park, to protect and preserve the flora, fauna, geology and historical remains present within Arikok National Park.

The Landscape

There is a great geological variety within the park. The main aspects are the rough hills of the volcanic Aruba lava formation, the mysterious rocks of the batholithic quartz-diorite/tonalite, and the limestone rocks from fossilized coral. The two tallest hills on the island are situated within the park. Jamano-ta hill 188 meters (617 ft) and Arikok hill 176 meters (577 ft), from which the name of the park is derived.

The line of the permanently wind-and-wave beaten North Coast is broken by several bays (boca's). Most of them are small yet impressive inlets at the mouth of dry riverbeds. Some of these bays (boca's) are spectacular sights, adorned with white, sandy beaches and sand dunes, as is the case at Boca Prins and Dos Playa.

Arikok is also home to Conchi, Aruba's most important natural attraction; also

known as The Natural Pool. The journey to the Pool is and adventure by itself and only possible by foot, horse, ATV or 4x4 vehicle.

Cultural and Historical components

There are a number of sites within the park that attest to the history of Aruba. The Caquetío Indians left rock paintings in Cunucu Arikok and Fontein Cave. The bird drawing in the park logo is a copy of one of these historical artistic expressions.

Old plantation (Cunucus) sites tell the story of an active yet challenging agricultural past.

These Cunucus were also residential areas for the few families that worked the land. These families found



ways to survive in the difficult conditions, and were able to erect their homes with materials found in the area. Two of these adobe houses have been restored. Park rangers are learning many of the old building techniques in order to preserve this unique Aruban mud-house. At Cunucu Arikok and near Plantation Prins you can find these adobe houses.

Park Management

For the management of the park, a dedicated foundation "Fundacion Parque Nacional Arikok" (FPNA), known today as the Aruba National Park Foundation was established in July 2003. In February 2017, mangrove and wetland RAMSAR site #198 Spanish Lagoon was annexed to Arikok National Park due to its importance as a feeding and breeding

area for water birds and as a nursery area for a variety of marine organisms. With this addition, the areas under FPNA management increased by 70 hectares while the amount of species of flora and fauna to be conserved to over 250. On December 21st, 2018 (AB 2018 no. 77) Parke Marino Aruba – currently consisting of four marine protected areas (MPAs) – was officially established and subsequently brought under management of FPNA. In 2019 management plans will be established for the new MPAs which include: coral reefs, sea grass beds, mangrove systems, a large diversity of breeding seabirds. Parke Marino Aruba also contains potential shark nursery areas, endangered sea turtle nesting beaches and marine mammal nursery areas. □



CROSSWORD

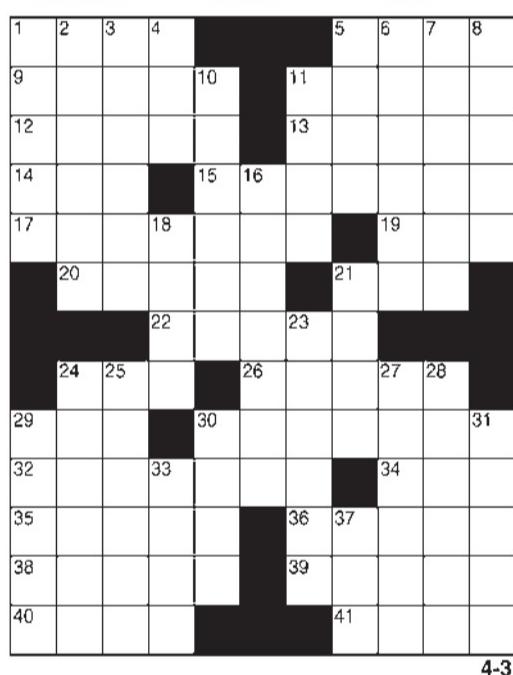
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Speedy horse 40 Famed loch
- 5 Staff symbol 41 Mosquito or gnat
- 9 Train stop 11 Plain to see
- 12 Last letter 13 Rashness
- 14 Grier of "Jackie Brown"
- 15 Joined a melee
- 17 Fished with a net
- 19 Form 1040 org.
- 20 Places for pads
- 21 Lock opener
- 22 Sean of "The Lord of the Rings"
- 24 Inquire
- 26 Cager Shaquille
- 29 Back, on a boat
- 30 Proceeded slowly
- 32 Talked like a Texan
- 34 Bar topic
- 35 Opera's Callas
- 36 Entertain
- 38 Improve, in a way
- 39 Alpine trill



Yesterday's answer



4-3

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-3

CRYPTOQUOTE

CFOM UPJ HFEUQHD EF XF LQE
LUPE GFT PYM MWVMBEQHD EF
DME — FHCG LQE LUPE GFT
PYM MWVMBEQHD EF DQOM —
LUQBU QJ MOMEYGEUQHD .
— IPEUPYQHM UMVNTYH

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: SPRING WILL COME AND SO WILL HAPPINESS. HOLD ON. LIFE WILL GET WARMER. — ANITA KRIZZAN

Cruise ship Schedule: July 01 - July 30 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH
THU	04	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C 1
TUE	09	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	B 1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C 1
WED	10	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C 1
TUE	16	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C 1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I 1
WED	17	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C 1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C 1
TUE	30	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C 1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

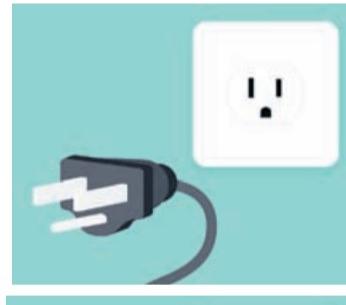
(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Supermarket hours



Electrical power



Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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A big boost for a climate solution: electricity made from the heat of the Earth

By JENNIFER McDERMOTT

Associated Press

One method of making electricity cleanly to address climate change has been quietly advancing and on Tuesday it hit a milestone.

A California utility is backing the largest new geothermal power development in the U.S. 400 megawatts of clean electricity from the Earth's heat enough for some 400,000 homes.

Southern California Edison will purchase the electricity from Fervo Energy, a Houston-based geothermal company, Fervo announced.

The company is drilling up to 125 wells in southwest Utah.

Clean electricity like this reduces the need for traditional power plants that cause climate change. The boost could go a long way toward bringing down the cost of a new generation of geothermal energy, said Wilson Ricks, an energy systems researcher at Princeton University.

"If these purchases help to get this technology off the ground, it could be massively impactful for global decarbonization," he said. Decarbonization refers to switching out things that produce carbon dioxide and methane, which cause the climate to change, in favor of machines and methods that don't.

Today the world still relies mainly on fossil fuels for round-the-clock power. This new deal shows that clean power can meet a growing demand for electricity, said Sarah Jewett, vice president of strategy at Fervo.

"I think that's why it's so exciting. This isn't a niche energy resource going to a niche use," she said. "And that is something we have not had, you know, readily available" and able to be scaled up.

The first generation of geothermal plants, for example, The Geysers in California, tapped into superheated reservoirs of steam or very hot water close to the Earth's surface. Such reservoirs are relatively rare.



A drill rig stands at a Fervo Energy geothermal site under construction near Milford, Utah, Nov. 26, 2023.

New geothermal companies are adapting drilling technology and practices taken from the oil and gas industry to create reservoirs from hot rock. That unlocks the potential for geothermal energy in many more places. Engineers have been working to advance the methods for years.

The United States is one of the world leaders in using the Earth's heat to make electricity, but geothermal still accounts for less than half a percent of the nation's total large-scale electricity generation, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Fervo is pioneering hori-

zontal drilling in geothermal reservoirs. It signed the world's first corporate agreement with Google in 2021 to develop new geothermal power and drilled three wells in Nevada. That project began sending carbon-free electricity onto the Nevada grid in November to power data centers there.

The Cape Station project, about 200 miles south of Salt Lake City, is expected to start delivering electricity to California as early as 2026.

California Energy Commission Chair David Hochschild said the state is committed to clean, zero-carbon elec-

tricity. He said geothermal complements wind and solar farms by providing steady power when it's not windy or sunny, and that is key to ensuring reliability as the state cuts fossil fuels. □

Associated Press

ARUBA TODAY

BONDIA ARUBA

How to reach us!

Downtown



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel. 524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:
Kibrahacha : Tel. 583 4908
San Nicolas:
San Nicolas: Tel. 584 5712

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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Car dealerships in North America revert to pens and paper after cyberattacks on software provider

By W. GRANTHAM-PHILIPS

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP)— Car dealerships in North America are still wrestling with major disruptions that started last week with cyberattacks on a company whose software is used widely in the auto retail sales sector.

CDK Global, a company that provides software for thousands of auto dealers in the U.S. and Canada, was hit by back-to-back cyberattacks Wednesday. That led to an outage that has continued to impact operations.

For prospective car buyers, that's meant delays at dealerships or vehicle orders written up by hand. There's no immediate end in sight, but CDK says it expects the restoration process to take "several days" to complete.

On Monday, Group 1 Automotive Inc., a \$4 billion automotive retailer, said it is using "alternative processes" to sell cars to its customers. Lithia Motors and AutoNation, two other dealership chains, also disclosed that they implemented workarounds to keep their operations going.

Here is what you need to know.

What is CDK Global?CDK Global is a major player in the auto sales industry. The company, based just outside of Chicago in Hoffman Estates, Illinois, provides software technology to dealers that helps with day-to-day operations like facilitating vehicle sales, financing, insurance and repairs.

CDK serves more than 15,000 retail locations across North America, according to the company.

What happened last week?CDK experienced back-to-back cyberattacks on Wednesday. The company shut down all of its systems after the first attack out of an abundance of caution, according to spokesperson Lisa Finney, and then shut down most systems again following the second.

"We have begun the restoration process," Finney



Vehicles sit in a row outside a dealership, June 2, 2024, in Lone Tree, Colo.

Associated Press

said in an update over the weekend noting that the company had launched an investigation into the "cyber incident" with third-party experts and notified law enforcement.

"Based on the information we have at this time, we anticipate that the process will take several days to complete, and in the interim we are continuing to actively engage with our customers and provide them with alternate ways to conduct business," she added.

In messages to its customers, the company has also warned of "bad actors" posing as members or affiliates of CDK to try to obtain system access by contacting customers.

It urged them to be cautious of any attempted phishing.

The incident bore all the hallmarks of a ransomware attack, in which targets are asked to pay a ransom to access encrypted files. But CDK declined to comment directly neither confirming or denying if it had received a ransom demand. "When you see an attack of this kind, it almost always ends up being a ransom-

ware attack," Cliff Steinhauer, director of information security and engagement at the National Cybersecurity Alliance. "We see it time and time again unfortunately, (particularly in) the last couple of years. No industry and no organization or software company is immune."

Are impacted dealerships still selling cars?Several major auto companies including Stellantis, Ford and BMW confirmed to The Associated Press last week that the CDK outage had impacted some of their dealers, but that sales operations continue.

In light of the ongoing situation, a spokesperson for Stellantis said Friday that many dealerships had switched to manual processes to serve customers. That includes writing up orders by hand.

A Ford spokesperson added that the outage may cause "some delays and inconveniences at some dealers and for some customers."

However, many Ford and Lincoln customers are still getting sales and service support through alternative routes being used at deal-

erships.

Lithia said it activated cyber incident response procedures, which included "severing business service connections between the company's systems and CDK's." AutoNation said it also took steps to protect its systems and data, adding that all of its locations remain open "albeit with lower productivity," as many are served manually or through alternative processes.

HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF?With many details of the cyberattacks still unclear, customer privacy is also at top of mind especially with little known about what information may have been compromised this week.

If you've bought a car from a dealership that's used CDK software, cybersecurity security experts stress that it's important to assume your data may have been breached. That could potentially include "pretty sensitive information," Steinhauer noted, like your social security number, employment history, income and current or former addresses.

Those impacted should monitor their credit or even freeze their credit as an added layer of defense and consider signing up for identify theft monitor insurance. You'll also want to be wary of any phishing attempts. It's best to make sure you have reliable contact information for a company by visiting their official website, for example, as scammers sometimes try to take advantage of news about data breaches to gain your trust through look-alike emails or phone calls.

Those are some best practices to keep in mind whether you're a victim of CDK's data breach or not, Steinhauer said.

"Unfortunately, in this day and age, our data is a valuable target and you have to make sure that you're taking steps to protect it," he said. □

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NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman, left, presents Florida Panthers forward Aleksander Barkov (16) with the NHL hockey Stanley Cup after winning the Final against the Edmonton Oilers in Sunrise, Fla., Monday, June 24, 2024.

Associated Press

No time for a Stanley Cup hangover as the NHL offseason is already here

By STEPHEN WHYNO
AP Hockey Writer

The Stanley Cup was still on the ice when Patric Hornqvist offered up a sobering thought surrounded by former teammates and other family revelers holding cans of beer during the celebration.

The newly crowned champion Florida Panthers had work to do already because the offseason is already here for them and the NHL's other 31 teams.

The buyout window opens Wednesday, the draft is Friday and Saturday and the start of free agency is Monday, squeezing a flurry of activity to prepare for 2024-25 into a tight window.

"It's crazy," said Hornqvist, a two-time Cup-winning player who's now in Florida's front office. "A quick turnaround."

The season stretching into summer and the final between the Panthers and Edmonton Oilers going the distance to Game 7 set up this quick turnaround.

Less than 12 hours after the Cup was awarded, Colorado re-signed forward Casey Mittelstadt for three more years and Winnipeg extended defenseman Dylan DeMelo.

Some teams did not wait to take care of business. Boston and Ottawa made a

major goalie trade finalized Monday night sending 2023 Vezina Trophy winner Linus Ullmark to the Senators for Joonas Korpisalo, depth forward Mark Kastelic and a first-round pick. The Bruins will be making that selection Friday at the Sphere in Las Vegas long after San Jose leads off the draft with the expected choice of Macklin Celebrini with the first pick. After the Sharks' trying year in the NHL basement, they are eager for the draft, trade and free agent frenzy to get underway.

"Kind of a little bit scrambling and busy time, but I think everyone's been doing their homework and people will be prepared," general manager Mike Grier said. "This is a rewarding week for the franchise and for our scouts, who have done a ton of work. ... It's an exciting time. We're looking forward to it. It's busy, but it's a fun time in the end."

It should be fun for players such as 57-goal scorer Sam Reinhart, who also got the Cup clincher, and others such as Jake Guentzel and 2023 playoff MVP Jonathan Marchessault who are set to cash in as pending free agents. Less so for those on the trade market and potentially on the move, from Anaheim's Trevor Zegras to Toronto's Mitch Marner. □



Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw has been shut down after experiencing lingering soreness



Los Angeles Dodgers' Clayton Kershaw works out before a baseball game against the Colorado Rockies in Los Angeles, Sunday, June 2, 2024.

Associated Press

By JAY COHEN
AP Baseball Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw has been shut down for a week after experiencing lingering soreness in his comeback from left shoulder surgery.

Kershaw, 36, had an MRI that "showed no new incidents," manager Dave Roberts said before Monday night's 3-0 victory at the Chicago White Sox.

"You go through surgery. You go through rehab. You start throwing. You ramp up velocity, workload," Roberts said, "and there is bound to be some soreness, and that's where we're at."

"So then you do the scan to see if there's a new incident, which there wasn't, so that's why we feel very comfortable and confident that this is just a blip."

Kershaw had surgery in November, a month after he recorded just one out in Game 1 of the National League Division Series against Arizona. The three-time NL Cy Young Award winner re-signed with Los Angeles in February, staying with his only big league club.

Kershaw made a rehab start with Class-A Rancho Cucamonga on Wednesday night, throwing 37 pitches while working three innings of one-run ball. He was expected to throw four innings in his second rehab start Tuesday for Triple-A Oklahoma City.

After he takes a week off from throwing, Kershaw will begin to ramp up again.

"A week is not long enough to worry about cutting into the buildup that he's already had," Roberts said. "But I think it's a way to kind of get us back to get the soreness out, so that's the main thing."

Los Angeles (49-31) is on top of the NL West once again, but it has been hit hard by injuries this month. Mookie Betts broke his left hand when he was hit by a pitch on June 16. Yoshinobu Yamamoto (strained rotator cuff) and Walker Buehler (hip inflammation) were placed on the 15-day injured list, taking the right-handers out of the team's rotation for now. □



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Analysis: Bryson DeChambeau had his chances to make the Olympics

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

Bryson DeChambeau is a U.S. Open champion, and for now that will have to do. He is among the great entertainers in golf, with a YouTube channel approaching 800,000 subscribers. He certainly is among the best players over the last three months. Just look at his record in the majors a tie for sixth in the Masters, runner-up by one birdie putt in the PGA Championship, conqueror of the toughest test in golf to win the U.S. Open. His swing speed is faster. His world ranking is climbing higher. His appeal is stronger. That's as close as DeChambeau gets to being part of the Olympics.

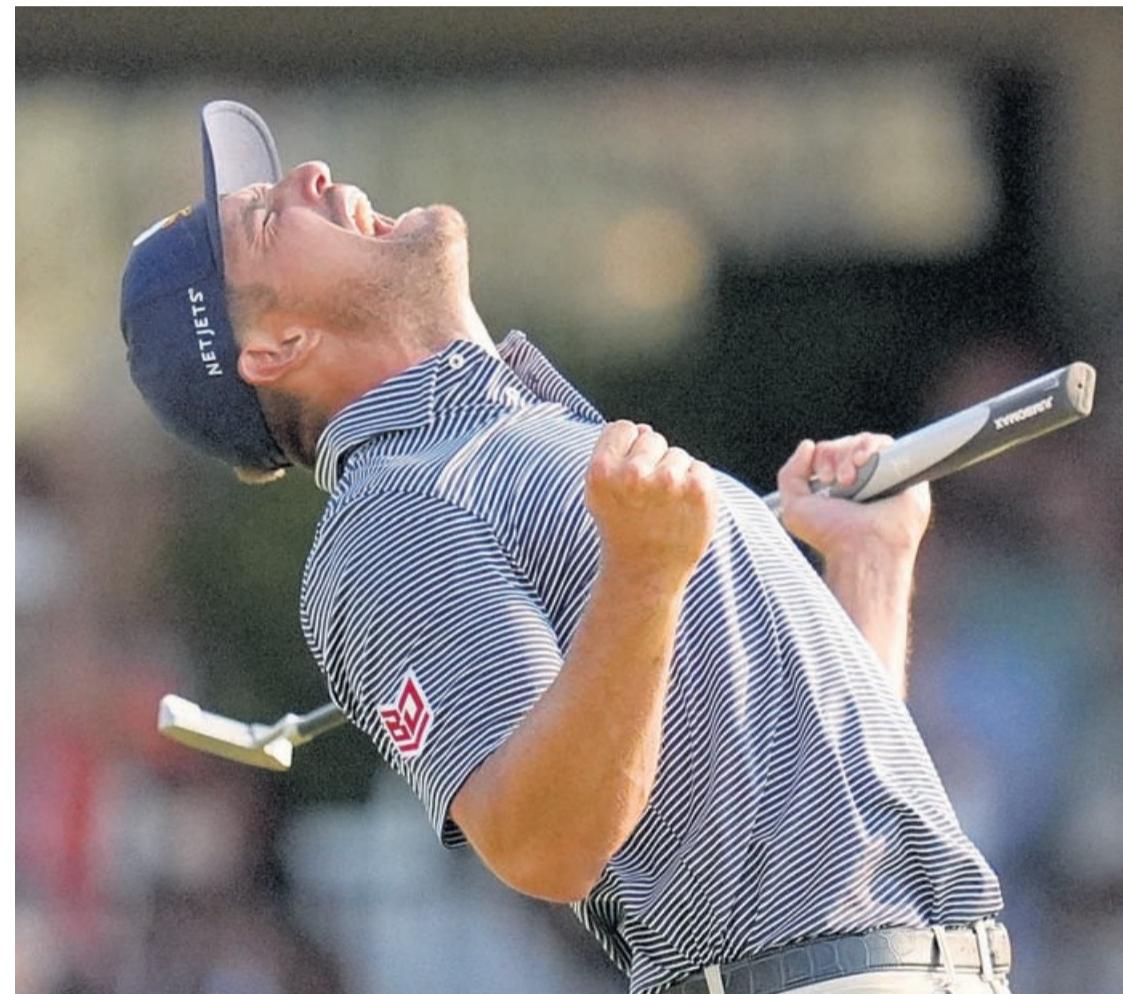
The four Americans heading to the Paris Games are Masters champion Scottie Scheffler, PGA champion Xander Schauffele, Collin Morikawa and past U.S. Open champion Wyndham Clark.

DeChambeau, who started the year at No. 155 in the world ranking and reached No. 10 while playing in only three tournaments, is the second alternate.

"It's disappointing, but I understand the decisions I made," DeChambeau said.

That decision was to take Saudi riches two years ago to join LIV Golf, a league that has teams and shotgun starts for 54 holes against (mostly) the same 54 players all season. It offers DeChambeau a chance to take his talents around the world, and it affords him time to create content making him as popular as ever.

The Olympics always was going to be a long shot. LIV Golf doesn't offer world ranking points and DeChambeau knew that when he signed up. He was competing against Ameri-



Bryson DeChambeau celebrates after winning the U.S. Open golf tournament Sunday, June 16, 2024, in Pinehurst, N.C.

Associated Press

cans who had a steady diet of big events with big points.

Is there an injustice? Not really.

DeChambeau missing out on the Olympics (again) has nothing to do with the Official World Golf Ranking choosing not to recognize what amounts to a closed shop at LIV Golf. The problem is golf is a sport where the OWGR is the most logical way to determine who plays.

The International Golf Federation the worldwide governing body for golf chose to use the world ranking to set the 60-man field when golf returned to the Olympics in 2016.

"It was the best way to determine the top players and balance the strength of field with diversity," said Antony Scanlon, the IGF ex-

ecutive with a strong background in the Olympics.

The Olympics is not the strongest field because of that diversity, which is bringing players from 32 countries Switzerland and Malaysia, included to Le Golf National in early August.

But it's the Olympics. And someone is always going to get left out.

It makes little sense to fill the field based on a tour because each tour has players from all over the world, and the best of the lot are on the PGA Tour. It's been that way for 20 years. LIV has bought its share of big-time players, but how to measure them when it's

(mostly) the same 54 was one of the key reasons the OWGR board chose not to give them points.

At the heart of the OWGR

decision was measuring them against two dozen other tours that operate nothing like LIV.

Players knew when they signed up for LIV that it would be a tough road. That's why it's worth celebrating David Puig of Spain, who joined LIV out of Arizona State and played the Asian Tour whenever he could to accumulate points.

Joaquin Niemann of Chile did the same, which not only earned him an invitation to the Masters, he did well enough to secure his spot in the Olympics again. Carlos Ortiz won in Oman on the Asian Tour, which helped his cause.

"I've done my best up until now to give myself a chance according to the OWGR, but I realize and respect where the current

situation of the game is, albeit it's frustrating and disappointing," DeChambeau said. "Hopefully 2028 will be a little different situation, and it will make it that much sweeter."

He played well in the majors. But his best chance? DeChambeau, who missed three straight cuts before joining LIV in June 2022, has played only one tournament outside LIV and the majors over the last two years. Maybe he could have helped his chances by playing an Asian Tour or in Australia. Maybe that's not what he wanted to do, which is fine.

His record in the majors is second to none. On LIV Golf this year, he is 12th in the standings.

Clark has only one top 10 (and two missed cuts) in his last five starts. But golf is measured over time, and he won the Wells Fargo Championship last year and then the U.S. Open, and he shot 60 to win the rain-shortened AT&T Pebble Beach.

Morikawa played in the final group of two majors and has risen from No. 20 to No. 7 in the world since the Masters. Scheffler's and Schauffele's records need no explanation. They earned their spots in Paris.

DeChambeau almost did, and he said all the right things when asked if he should be going to the Olympics. Perhaps it will be different for 2028, suggesting slightly better (or more) results, or even a more equitable OWGR situation with LIV. "There's another one four years later," he said. Then again, DeChambeau knows not to count on that.

He was part of the U.S. squad for the Tokyo Games until he tested positive for COVID-19 and never made it to Japan. □